

# Information Update

Number 6 11-23-99

# Healthy Families expansion now in effect!

New income limits for Healthy Families

Good news! Federal approval has been received to expand the Healthy Families program. Effective immediately, the following changes are in effect:

- Income eligibility levels for children ages 1 to 19 have been increased from 200% to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- Children under age 1 with a household income between 200% to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level are now eligible for Healthy Families.
- Medi-Cal income deductions are now applied when determining eligibility for Healthy Families.

An errata sheet with the new income levels will be inserted into the Healthy Families and Medi-Cal for Children application. If you are interested in getting copies of the errata sheet, please contact RHA toll-free at 1-888-237-6248. A revised Healthy Families and Medi-Cal for Children application and handbook that includes the expanded eligibility levels also will be available soon.



Family Size	Child age 0 to 1 or Pregnant Women Medi-Cal	Child Age 0 to 1 Healthy Families	Child age 1 thru 5 Medi-Cal	Child Age 1 thru 5 Healthy Families	Child age 6 thru 18 Medi-Cal	Child age 6 thru 18 Healthy Families
1	\$0 - \$1,374	\$1,375 - \$1,717	\$0 - \$914	\$915 - \$1,717	\$0 - \$687	\$688 - \$1,717
2	\$0 - \$1,844	\$1,845 - \$2,305	\$0 - \$1,226	\$1,227 - \$2,305	\$0 - \$922	\$923 - \$2,305
3	\$0 - \$2,314	\$2,315 - \$2,892	\$0 - \$1,539	\$1,540 - \$2,892	\$0 - \$1,157	\$1,158 - \$2,892
4	\$0 - \$2,784	\$2,785 - \$3,480	\$0 - \$1,851	\$1,852 - \$3,480	\$0 - \$1,392	\$1,393 - \$3,480
5	\$0 - \$3,254	\$3,255 - \$4,067	\$0 - \$2,164	\$2,165 - \$4,067	\$0 - \$1,627	\$1,628 - \$4,067
6	\$0 - \$3,724	\$3,725 - \$4,655	\$0 - \$2,477	\$2,478 - \$4,655	\$0 - \$1,862	\$1,863 - \$4,655
7	\$0 - \$4,194	\$4,195 - \$5,242	\$0 - \$2,789	\$2,790 - \$5,242	\$0 - \$2,097	\$2,098 - \$5,242
8	\$0 - \$4,664	\$4,665 - \$5,830	\$0 - \$3,102	\$3,103 - \$5,830	\$0 - \$2,332	\$2,333 - \$5,830
9	\$0 - \$5,134	\$5,135 - \$6,417	\$0 - \$3,414	\$3,415 - \$6,417	\$0 - \$2,567	\$2,568 - \$6,417
10	\$0 - \$5,604	\$5,605 - \$7,005	\$0 - \$3,727	\$3,728 - \$7,005	\$0 - \$2,802	\$2,803 - \$7,005

# IMPORTANT DISTRIBUTION FOR LINKED CAA STAFF

This informational mailing is sent only to enrollment entities. You are responsible for ensuring that your linked CAA staff receive this information that is critical to correctly completing an application. Your entity may experience an increase in reimbursement denials if your staff is missing accurate eligibility or enrollment information.

#### NEW: Pre-Enrollment for unborn infants

Children under age 1 with a household income between 200% to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level are now eligible for Healthy Families. Also, applicants who would like to apply for Healthy Families coverage of an unborn infant can apply up to 3 months before the expected date of birth. When assisting applicants who are applying for an unborn child, please provide all the information known about the child at the time of application and write "unborn child" over the column on page A1 of the application that provides information on the unborn child. The revised application will include a box under the Child 1 column that applicants can check to indicate that they are applying for an unborn child.

#### In order for coverage to begin after the child's birth the applicant must provide one of the following:

- 1. a birth certificate provided by a hospital or other health care facility, **OR**
- 2. a signed statement by the health practitioner who presided over the delivery, **OR**
- 3. an equivalent document.

The birth certificate, statement, or equivalent document must include the child's name, place and date of birth, gender, and expected date of release from the hospital. Healthy Families must receive the documentation within 30 days of the child's birth or the applicant will have to submit a new application. Health coverage for the child will begin no later than 13 days after Healthy Families receives documentation of the child's birth.

### NEW: HF eligibility now uses Medi-Cal deductions

Healthy Families and Medi-Cal now use the same income eligibility rules for the treatment of income and deductions. This means that Healthy Families will use Medi-Cal income deductions. The following deductions will be subtracted (when applicable) from the families gross income:

- A \$90 deduction for each person working, receiving State Disability Insurance or Workers Compensation;
- A maximum of \$200 in child care expenses for each child under the age of 2, or \$175 for each child age 2 or older or a disabled dependent of any age;
- The amount of court-ordered child support or alimony paid monthly;
- A \$50 deduction if court-ordered child support or alimony is received.

Documentation of the income deductions, except for the work expense deduction, must be sent with the application. For more information on what documents may be needed, please see page 6 of the application.

## Reminder: use the appropriate process to request reimbursement



The new Healthy Families and Medi-Cal for Children application contains a section for EE and CAA information (see page A-3, section 9, box 53).

In order to receive the application assistant reimbursement fee, this section **MUST** be <u>correctly</u> and <u>legibly</u> **completed.** This means that **every line must be filled in** with the appropriate information, including the correct date. Please see the example below:

#### SECTION 9: Reimbursement for Application Assistance. For CAA use only.

I certify I had help in completing this form from the CAA listed below. This CAA's help was FREE of charge. The state will not issue a reimbursement to the EE unless Section 9 is completely and correctly filled out at the time this application is submitted.							
Applicant Signature			Date				
CAA Signature	CAA#	EE#	Date				

## Easy access to a "Quick Guide" on public charge questions

To download the information from the Internet:

- 1. Go to <a href="http://www.ins.usdoj.gov">http://www.ins.usdoj.gov</a>.
- 2. Click on Public Affairs.
- 3. Click on Public Information.
- 4. Under "Please select a topic" select Public Charge.
- 5. Scroll down to Public Charge.
- 6. Select "A Quick Guide to Public Charge and Receipt of Public Benefits 10/18/99."